

the Senate to pass this important legislation so that we can help every American who wants to work find a job.

Proclamation 7795—Great Outdoors Month, 2004

June 4, 2004

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

More than 200 years ago, Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark embarked upon an expedition to explore uncharted lands and find passage across the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. During the Captains' journey, their Corps of Discovery encountered remarkable landscapes, observed wildlife, and traded with American Indians. Two years into his experience, Captain Lewis was inspired by the beauty of a waterfall along the Missouri River that he called in his journal, "the grandest sight I ever beheld." Today, the splendor of the great outdoors continues to inspire our citizens, and a love of outdoor recreation remains a fundamental part of the American character. By observing Great Outdoors Month, we celebrate our commitment to appreciating and protecting our natural wealth.

Outdoor recreation is an ideal way to exercise and enjoy memorable experiences with family and friends, and all across our country are scenic places that sports and nature enthusiasts can explore and help keep beautiful. During Great Outdoors Month and throughout the year, I encourage Americans to go camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, bird watching, boating, or to participate in other outdoor activities that are part of a healthy lifestyle.

The true strength of our Nation lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens, and I urge all Americans not only to visit our parks and recreation areas, but also to volunteer their time and talents to help maintain the beauty of our environment. Good stewardship of the environment is not just a personal responsibility, it is a public value; and citizens who lend a hand to local parks and public lands are vital to the preservation of our Nation's

many special places. Americans can take pride in the remarkable progress we continue to make in conserving our environment and natural resources.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2004 as Great Outdoors Month. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to participate in safe and enjoyable outdoor recreation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 9:36 a.m., June 8, 2004]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on June 9.

Remarks to Reporters in Rome, Italy

June 4, 2004

National Economy

Today's job report shows that the American economy is strong and it's getting stronger. Two hundred forty eight thousand jobs for last month is good for the American workers. It shows that our economy is vital and growing. We've added 900,000 jobs over the last 3 months and 1.4 million jobs since last August. The policies in place are working. The entrepreneurial spirit is strong. The small-business sector of our economy is vibrant. And I'm pleased the American worker is doing their job.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:36 p.m. at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

May 29

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

May 30

In the afternoon, the President welcomed Rolling Thunder leaders at the South Portico and then met with them in the Oval Office.

May 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Arlington, VA, where they participated in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

June 1

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He also had a telephone conversation with King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain to discuss the situation in Iraq. Later, he had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister Ayad al-Alawi and President Ghazi Ujayl al-Yawr of Iraq to congratulate them on assuming leadership and to discuss Iraqi-U.S. cooperation.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Denver, CO, where, upon arrival, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Rick Sullivan.

June 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Colorado Springs, CO, where, upon arrival at Peterson Air Force Base, he greeted USA Freedom Corps volunteer Gloria Moran.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

In the evening, in the Residence, the President met with Central Intelligence

Agency Director George J. Tenet to discuss Director Tenet's decision to resign.

June 3

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Rome, Italy, arriving early the next morning.

The President declared a major disaster in Indiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding beginning on May 27 and continuing.

June 4

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Quirinale Palace, he met with President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi of Italy.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Vatican City, where they participated in a greeting with Pope John Paul II. Later, the President met with Angelo Cardinal Sodano, Secretary of State of the Holy See.

Later in the afternoon, after returning to Rome, the President and Mrs. Bush toured the Fosse Ardeatine mausoleum and participated in a wreath-laying ceremony there.

In the evening, at Villa Taverna, the U.S. Ambassador's residence, the President and Mrs. Bush greeted U.S. Embassy personnel and U.S. veterans. Later, at Villa Madama, they attended a dinner hosted by Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy.

The President announced his intention to nominate John C. Danforth to be U.S. Representative to the United Nations with the rank of Ambassador, U.S. Representative to the United Nations Security Council, and U.S. Representative to the United Nations General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to nominate Douglas L. McElhaney to be Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The President announced his intention to nominate Aldona Vos to be Ambassador to Estonia.